

INTRODUCTION

Use of Population Data in Vital Event Surveillance

Simple counts of information collected on vital certificates or forms are helpful in planning provisions for health services, because they document the number of people who experience health events in a particular geographic area.

When questions concerning *comparisons* between groups arise, however, simple counts are often misleading because they do not account for differences in the composition of the groups. For example, more people die in towns where the majority of the inhabitants are elderly than in towns with a majority of young adults, simply because older people die more often than younger people do. Solely relying on counts as a measure of the magnitude of the vital event would deceptively imply that the town with a greater majority of elderly people has an abnormally high occurrence of death. Statisticians calculate rates in order to address these and other concerns related to the comparison of groups within a population. Rates provide a way to relate the number of events that occurred to the population in which they occurred. They are calculated by dividing the number of events by the number of people in the group, then multiplying the quotient by an appropriate enlarging factor (typically 1,000 or 100,000) to provide an understandable integer. As is often the case, when the number of individuals in a group where the event occurred is not known, census population data are used to estimate the number.

Louisiana population figures provide a frame of reference for examining the vital events that occur within the resident population within a particular year. State population figures are used to calculate the overall rates at which births and deaths occur throughout the state.

Source of Data: US Census 2000

For the years that fall between the ten-year census counts, intercensal population estimates are calculated by the United States Census Bureau. These estimates of yearly populations are based on determinations of the number of births, deaths, and migrations into and out of the state on an annual basis.

Detailed intercensal estimates for 2001 were not available at the time of publication, thus data from the 2000 census were used in the calculation of rates in this report.

POPULATION: Introduction

Population Estimates

The 2001 US census estimate placed the number of Louisiana residents at 4,470,368. Following an extended period of steady growth, the state experienced a decline in population in the late 1980s, due primarily to migration out of the state. Since that

time, the migratory tide has stemmed and population levels have returned to those of the early 1980s. Historical estimates of the total Louisiana population are shown in *Table P1*.

Estimates grouped by sex, race, and age describe the population's

composition and are used to calculate rates for comparison of vital events among population subgroups (*Table P2*). Detailed estimates for 2001 were not available at the time of publication; the approximately equivalent 2000 estimates were used.

Table P1.	Population
Louisiana.	1945-2001

		Louisiuii	u, 1540-2001		
Year	Population	Year	Population	Year	Population
1945	2,429,000	1965	3,496,000	1985	4,408,118
1946	2,556,000	1966	3,550,000	1986	4,406,919
1947	2,579,000	1967	3,581,000	1987	4,344,148
1948	2,596,000	1968	3,603,000	1988	4,288,863
1949	2,634,000	1969	3,619,000	1989	4,252,894
1950	2,697,000	1970	3,644,637	1990	4,219,179
1951	2,769,000	1971	3,710,487	1991	4,240,150
1952	2,842,000	1972	3,761,646	1992	4,270,849
1953	2,866,000	1973	3,788,375	1993	4,284,749
1954	2,883,000	1974	3,820,109	1994	4,306,500
1955	2,946,000	1975	3,886,104	1995	4,327,978
1956	3,032,000	1976	3,950,605	1996	4,338,763
1957	3,115,000	1977	4,014,459	1997	4,351,390
1958	3,155,000	1978	4,068,579	1998	4,362,758
1959	3,208,000	1979	4,137,665	1999	4,372,035
1960	3,260,000	1980	4,205,900	2000	4,468,976
1961	3,287,000	1981	4,283,303	2001	4,470,368
1962	3,345,000	1982	4,352,608		
1963	3,377,000	1983	4,395,316		
1964	3,446,000	1984	4,400,477		

Source: United States Census Bureau

Table P2.
Population by Sex, Race, and Age Groups 0-49
Louisiana. 2000

					Louisid	ilia, 2000								
_	_		Age Group											
Sex	Race	0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49			
	White	90,077	95,021	100,604	106,743	96,487	92,642	98,025	111,567	115,982	105,560			
Male	Black	63,956	70,528	70,127	70,183	56,661	45,440	44,942	48,549	49,010	43,110			
	Other	7,762	7,216	6,968	7,452	8,023	7,250	6,499	6,468	5,774	4,945			
	Total	161,795	172,765	177,699	184,378	161,171	145,332	149,466	166,584	170,766	153,615			
	White	86,248	89,597	95,363	103,788	94,818	91,943	96,920	112,493	114,724	105,699			
Female	Black	61,873	67,684	68,294	70,759	62,530	52,326	52,639	57,993	57,447	51,202			
	Other	7,476	6,734	6,556	7,020	7,052	6,560	5,976	6,058	5,901	5,252			
	Total	155,597	164,015	170,213	181,567	164,400	150,829	155,535	176,544	178,072	162,153			

Source: United States Census Bureau, 2000 Census

Note: 2001 estimates by age were not available at the time of publication. Distribution of the 2000 population is estimated to be approximately equivalent.

Table P2 (cont.)
Population by Sex, Race, and Age Groups 50-85+
Louisiana, 2000

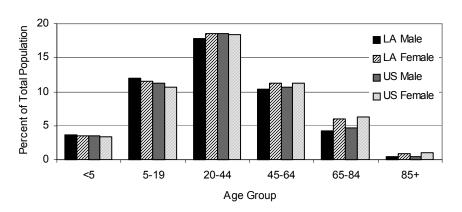
Sex	Race	Age Group								
		50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75-79	80-84	85+	Total
	White	93,686	73,198	58,966	50,327	44,953	33,607	18,762	11,811	1,398,018
Male	Black	33,846	23,618	18,744	14,786	12,062	8,626	5,069	4,233	683,490
	Other	4,058	2,824	2,104	1,539	1,136	669	434	274	81,395
	Total	131,590	99,640	79,814	66,652	58,151	42,902	24,265	16,318	2,162,903
Female	White	94,938	76,998	63,946	58,974	57,011	48,924	33,982	31,777	1,458,143
	Black	39,743	29,137	24,332	20,571	18,333	13,999	9,605	9,987	768,454
	Other	4,232	2,986	2,195	1,807	1,426	998	653	594	79,476
	Total	138,913	109,121	90,473	81,352	76,770	63,921	44,240	42,358	2,306,073

Source: United States Census Bureau, 2000 Census

Note: 2001 estimates by age were not available at the time of publication. Distribution of the 2001 population is estimated to be approximately equivalent.

Subgroup estimates, expressed as a percentage of the total population, indicate that population compositions for the state and the nation are very similar in the distribution of sex and age (Figure P1, Table P3). For both the state and the nation, the largest age group is 20-44 years, and the smallest age group is 85+ years.

Figure P1. Percent of Total Population by Sex and Age Group Louisiana and United States, 2000



Source: US Census Bureau, 2000 Census

Note: 2001 estimates by age were not available at the time of publication.

Distribution of the 2001 population is predictable to be approximately equivalent.

Table P3.
Percent of Total Population by Sex and Age Group
Louisiana and United States, 2000

-		Age Group									
Location	Sex	<5	5-19	20-44	45-64	65-84	85+	All Ages			
	Male	3.6	12.0	17.8	10.4	4.3	0.4	48.4			
LA	Female	3.5	11.5	18.5	11.2	6.0	0.9	51.6			
	Both	7.1	23.5	36.3	21.6	10.3	1.3	*100.0			
-	Male	3.5	11.2	18.6	10.7	4.7	0.4	49.1			
US	Female	3.3	10.6	18.4	11.3	6.2	1.1	50.9			
	Both	6.8	21.8	37.0	22.0	10.9	1.5	100.0			

Source: United States Census Bureau, 2000 Census

Note: 2001 estimates by age were not available at the time of publication.

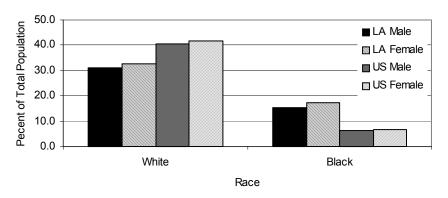
Distribution of the 2001 population is estimated to be approximately equivalent.

*Note: may not sum to 100.0 due to rounding

Louisiana's population composition is distinct from that of the United States with regard to race (Figure P2, Table P4). Both race and sex distributions become more disparate as age increases.

Within age groups under 45 years, the percentages of men and women are nearly equal. In age groups 45 years of age and over, women increasingly outnumber men. Among those who reach the 85+ age group, there are almost three times as many women as men (Figure P3, Figure P4, and Table P5).

Figure P2. Percents of Total Population by Sex and Race Louisiana and United States, 2000



Source: US Census Bureau, 2000 Population Estimates Note: 2001 estimates by age were not available at the time of publication. Distribution of the 2001 population is estimated to be approximately equivalent.

Table P4.

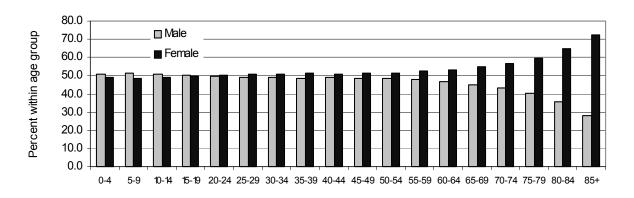
Percent of Total Population by Race and Sex
Louisiana and United States, 2000

Location Race								
	Sex	White	Black	Other	Total			
	Male	31.3	15.3	1.8	48.4			
Louisiana	Female	32.6	17.2	1.8	51.6			
	Both	63.9	32.5	3.6	100.0			
	Male	40.4	6.1	2.4	48.9			
United States	Female	41.8	6.7	2.6	51.1			
	Both	82.2	12.8	5.0	100.0			

Source: US Census Bureau, 2000 Population Estimates

Note: 2001 estimates by age were not available at the time of publication. Distribution of the 2001 population is estimated to be approximately equivalent.

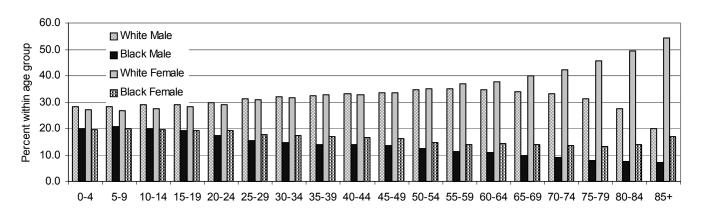
Figure P3. Percent Distribution of Sex Within Age Group Louisiana, 2000



Source: US Census Bureau, 2000 Census

Note: 2001 estimates by age were not available at the time of publication. Distribution of the 2001 population is estimated to be approximately equivalent.

Figure P4. Distribution of Race and Sex Within Age Group Louisiana, 2000



Source: US Census Bureau, 2000 Census

Note: 2001 estimates by age were not available at the time of publication. Distribution of the 2001 population is estimated to be approximately equivalent.

Table P5.

Percent Distribution by Race and Sex, Within Age Groups 0-49

Louisiana, 2000

_	_					Age (Group				
Sex	Race	0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49
	White	28.4	28.2	28.9	29.2	29.6	31.3	32.1	32.5	33.2	33.4
Male	Black	20.2	20.9	20.2	19.2	17.4	15.3	14.7	14.1	14.0	13.7
	Other	2.4	2.1	2.0	2.0	2.5	2.4	2.1	1.9	1.7	1.6
	Total	51.0	51.3	51.1	50.4	49.5	49.1	49.0	48.5	49.0	48.6
	White	27.2	26.6	27.4	28.4	29.1	31.0	31.8	32.8	32.9	33.5
Female	Black	19.5	20.1	19.6	19.3	19.2	17.7	17.3	16.9	16.5	16.2
	Other	2.4	2.0	1.9	1.9	2.2	2.2	2.0	1.8	1.7	1.7
	Total	49.0	48.7	48.9	49.6	50.5	50.9	51.0	51.5	51.0	51.4

Source: United States Census Bureau, 2000 Census

Note: 2001 estimates by age were not available at the time of publication. Distribution of the 2001 population is estimated to be approximately equivalent.

Table P5 (cont.) Percent Distribution by Race and Sex, Within Age Groups 50-85+ Louisiana, 2000

					Louisiana,	2000								
-	T		Age Group											
Sex	Race	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75-79	80-84	85+	Total				
	White	34.6	35.1	34.6	34.0	33.3	31.5	27.4	20.1	31.3				
Male	Black	12.5	11.3	11.0	10.0	8.9	8.1	7.4	7.2	15.3				
	Other	1.5	1.4	1.2	1.0	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.5	1.8				
	Total	48.6	47.7	46.9	45.0	43.1	40.2	35.4	27.8	48.4				
	White	35.1	36.9	37.6	39.8	42.3	45.8	49.6	54.2	32.6				
Female	Black	14.7	14.0	14.3	13.9	13.6	13.1	14.0	17.0	17.2				
	Other	1.6	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.1	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.8				
	Total	51.4	52.3	53.1	55.0	56.9	59.8	64.6	72.2	51.6				

Source: United States Census Bureau, 2000 Census

Note: 2001 estimates by age were not available at the time of publication. Distribution of the 2001 population is estimated to be approximately equivalent.

2001 population estimates for each of Louisiana's 64 parishes (counties) show the distribution of the total population across the state. Parish-level populations are shown in *Table P6*.

Table P6. Population Counts by Parish Louisiana, 2001								
Parish	2001 Parish Estimate	Parish	2001 Parish Estimate					
Acadia		Madison	13,617					
Allen	25,446	Morehouse	30,454					
Ascension	78,278	Natchitoches	39,273					
Assumption	23,253	Orleans	479,187					
Avoyelles	41,449	Ouachita	146,651					
Beauregard	32,962	Plaquemines	26,998					
Bienville	15,560	Pointe Coupee	22,615					
Bossier	99,267	Rapides	126,542					
Caddo	252,574	Red River	9,592					
Calcasieu	183,670	Richland	20,827					
Caldwell	10,500	Sabine	23,457					
Cameron	9,862	St. Bernard	66,473					
Catahoula	10,518	St. Charles	48,336					
Claiborne	16,533	St. Helena	10,582					
Concordia	19,813	St. James	21,221					
DeSoto	25,496	St. John	43,492					
East Baton Rouge	414,040	St. Landry	87,785					
East Carroll	9,222	St. Martin	49,201					
East Feliciana	21,416	St. Mary	52,293					
Evangeline	35,469	St. Tammany	193,466					
Franklin	21,014	Tangipahoa	100,935					
Grant	18,674	Tensas	6,506					
Iberia	73,349	Terrebonne	104,892					
Iberville	33,191	Union	22,804					
Jackson	15,122	Vermilion	53,651					
Jefferson	453,116	Vernon	51,995					
Jefferson Davis	•	Washington	43,723					
Lafayette	190,858	Webster	41,480					
Lafourche	90,255	West Baton Rouge	21,722					
LaSalle	14,139	West Carroll	12,070					
Lincoln		West Feliciana	15,138					
Livingston	94,263	Winn	16,664					

Source: Louisiana Technical University, Research Division, January 2002.